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Vol VI No 241 *13 December 1979*

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OLADE FOCUSES ON NEED FOR ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES

PA121750 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1739 GMT 11 Dec 79 PA

[By Francisco Rubiales]

[Text] Panama City, 11 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The 10th ministerial meeting of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), which ends in Panama today, pointed out dramatic aspects of the Latin American energy situation and the concern of the governments regarding the problems in the region's energy future. More than concern, there is an obsession regarding the world's future, said Mohamed Habil Gherab, a Tunisian who was representing the United Nations at the conference.

It was noted that Latin America is self-sufficient in energy at present, but its trade is so disorganized that the region imports 90 percent of the energy it consumes and exports 80 percent of the energy it produces, thereby ceding fabulous profits to intermediary companies while spending enormous sums in freight charges. Energy and Mines Minister Hernan Brady Roche, the Chilean delegate, said that conservation of energy is necessary to keep the world oil situation from becoming unmanageable. Cuba said that the squandering by the superdeveloped countries is the cause of the present energy crisis, which has placed developing countries which do not produce oil in a crucial situation.

The Venezuelan delegate, Minister Calderon Berti, said that during the present energy crisis, the transnational companies are making profits of up to three times those made in the past when oil prices were low. These companies, he said, are selling crude oil to third countries today at prices much higher than those which prevail in official markets, thereby making enormous profits and increasing the chaos in the market.

The main focus of the conference has been the problem of alternative sources of energy, those which are destined to replace oil in the near future. The use of alcohol for automobiles; hydroelectric, biomass, biogas and geothermal energy; the wind; the tides; the sun and other alternative sources of energy in the future require a technological development which at present is available only to developed countries. The spectre of an energy future dominated by the rich countries that have the technology to build geothermic, aeolian or solar plants weighed heavily on the conference. According to many delegates, that future could be even more unjust than the present situation which is dominated by the oil producers who set world prices.

However, UN Representative Mohamed Habil Gherab said that these topics will be very extensively discussed at the conference on new and renewable energy sources to be held in Nairobi in 1981. The objective of this conference will be to avoid an energy monopoly by the powerful in the future. He explained that the technology that is available to the more developed countries today is not necessarily the technology to be utilized by developing countries and that, in any case, the problem of energy technology depends on the North-South dialog and worldwide financing.

The delegates agreed on the need to conserve oil, but some noted that conservation should be balanced on the part of all since conservation by poor countries would create an even greater gap between their economies and those of the wasteful rich countries.

Nicaragua To Join Organization

PA121644 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1720 GMT 11 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Panama City, 11 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan delegation attending the 10th ministerial conference of the Latin American Energy Organization [OLADE] as an observer confirmed today its country's intention to fully join the organization.

During the meeting, Haroldo Montealegre, deputy industry and commerce minister, and Emilio Rappaccioli, Nicaraguan Energy Institute general director, came out in favor of creating a united front to revalue raw materials. They announced that in the short term Nicaragua plans to establish an energy savings and conservation plan, exploit alternative energy sources and prospect for oil. The Nicaraguan delegates mentioned geothermal energy, hydroelectric energy, biomass, biogas and other alternative sources of energy.

Nicaragua signed the Lima Convention toward the end of 1973 but it has never ratified the OLADE charter convention.

Meeting Ends

PA122204 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0840 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[By Jose Montano]

[Text] Panama City, 12 Dec (LATIN)--After demonstrating that talks between producing and importing countries are possible and insuring that there will be a steady supply of oil to the hemisphere, the 10th ministerial meeting of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) closed here last night.

During the closing ceremony, OLADE Executive Secretary Gustavo Rodriguez, a Mexican, told newsmen the taboo against holding talks between oil-producing and consuming countries was broken during the deliberations in Panama City. He added that during the OLADE ministers' meeting, the countries of the area set aside the problem of hydrocarbons prices and focused on the steady supply of crude. Rodriguez commended Mexico and Venezuela, Latin America's biggest oil-producing countries, for their position, stating it betokens a great spirit of solidarity with the organization which, as the ministers confirmed, is the major regional energy organization. The organization also confirmed its support for Venezuela which will host the next OPEC ministers' meeting with a view to standardizing the crude price system and ending the spot market.

The OLADE executive secretary predicted a dim future for the countries that do not have hydrocarbons and contended that the biggest weakness of those nations is the impossibility of supplying anything in exchange for the fuel needed. According to Rodriguez, this lessens the strength of the underdeveloped countries and leaves them ill-prepared at the negotiating table.

The deliberations in Panama City resulted in the doubling of the OLADE Executive Secretariat's operational budget and spelled out the means to look for alternative sources of energy, conducting economic and energy planning studies and making more rational use of energy.

The next OLADE meeting will be held in Bogota, Colombia in September 1980. On that occasion, 24 hemispheric nations will join the organization.

During the closing of the 10th OLADE ministers' meeting, Chairman Juan Jose Amado, a Panamanian, told the producing nations that in their sovereign right to gain more profit "they should not lose sight of the fact that excessive gain without complementary actions may cause part of the existing [trade] imbalance that is detrimental to others." Amado called for establishing an international system based on the unchangeable condition of "a concept of social justice and regional integration for the development of the nations of the world." According to the Panamanian commerce and industries minister, despite technological progress and production capabilities, a significant imbalance persists in the pursuit of a "fair distribution of wealth." Amado stressed it is urgently necessary to undertake an international socioeconomic policy geared toward the basic objective of "balancing forces for the development of all nations for the good of mankind and avoiding prejudice resulting in the good of a few."

SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION HOLDS 16TH ASSEMBLY

PA111411 Paris AFP in Spanish 0007 GMT 11 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Lima, 10 Dec (AFP)--An appeal to South American governments bordering on the Pacific Ocean to adopt joint positions in the face of new proposals on the use of the sea was made here today at a meeting of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific. This organization, created in 1952 by Chile, Peru and Ecuador and joined this year by Colombia, began its 16th assembly here today to discuss scientific and technical issues.

Peruvian Foreign Minister Carlos Garcia stressed that international acceptance of the 200-mile maritime sovereignty thesis--which the first three member countries originated--must serve as motivation to persevere with new efforts along a common path. He added that the commission should discuss the creation of a community of states that border on the Pacific and the development of cooperation to preserve the seas. Ecuadorean representative Rafael Garcia Velasco said the commission should establish rules for the exploitation of migratory species--tuna among others--which other nations fish in waters belonging to these four countries. Peruvian Miguel Bakula, president of the permanent commission, noted that until now international efforts to develop fishing areas have been aimed at the Caribbean, the Persian Gulf, Southeast Asia and the west coast of Africa. The commission, he said, must accept the challenge of turning the Southeast Pacific into a fifth priority area.

The commission will meet here until Friday under the presidency of Peruvian Deputy Foreign Minister Juan Jose Calle.

SECOND TURBINE OF SALTO GRANDE DAM DEDICATED

PY102222 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1610 GMT 10 Dec 79 PY

[Excerpts] Concordia, 10 Dec (TELAM)--The Argentine and Uruguayan foreign ministers, Maj Gen Carlos Pastor, ret, and Adolfo Foller Martinez, respectively, today presided over placing into operation the second of the 14 turbines of the Salto Grande Dam. The ceremony took place at noon on the dam, which connects the two countries across the Uruguay River approximately 450 km northeast of Buenos Aires. After the first part of the ceremony was over, the ministers signed a number of accords aimed at facilitating and encouraging tourism through the creation of a special commission charged with studying the subject and proposing the appropriate measures designed to attain these objectives. In connection with tourist activities, another agreement was signed launching a system of reciprocal car insurance for car owners of the two countries. Still another agreement was signed today giving operating facilities to radio hams of both countries.

CASUALTIES, HEAVY LOSSES REPORTED FOLLOWING EARTHQUAKE

PA121456 Paris AFP in Spanish 1348 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpts] Bogota, 12 Dec (AFP)--A violent earthquake rocked Colombia today for the second time in the past 20 days. According to official reports, today's quake has left 27 dead and over 100 injured. The tremor, whose intensity reached 7.7 degrees on the international scale, was felt at 0803 GMT. The most heavily affected areas are in western Colombia. Damage has occurred in northern Ecuador.

According to Bogota police, the towns most seriously affected are El Charco, Guapi, Sandona, Aldana, Mosquera, Popayan, Pasto, Tumaco, Boca Grande, Buenaventura and Gorgona prison island. All these places felt the violent impact of the quake. It was also felt in Bogota--particularly in tall buildings--where it created panic among the people, who rushed out to the streets in search of protection.

El Charco--a community of about 7,000 people--was totally destroyed, Bogota's Radio Cadena Nacional reported, adding that at least 100 houses had collapsed, killing some 20 people. Both El Charco--a community that cannot be reached by car because there are no roads and which must be reached by canoe through the Pacific Ocean--and Tumaco, the second most seriously affected community, are completely cut off. Contacts with them have been through ham radio operators who have issued anguished appeals for helicopters and planes to assist the residents of these areas. The tremor also caused a number of fires in El Charco and Tumaco when several electric poles fell, causing short circuits.

According to police, no buildings have collapsed in Bogota. However, the tremor did cause three fires.

Reports received in Bogota from Colombian towns on the Ecuadorean border indicate that the quake did not cause serious damage in Ipiales, Cumbal or other nearby towns. According to a Colombian telecommunications enterprise operator in Tumaco, at least 80 houses crumbled in that community, causing 6 deaths and injuring numerous people.

In Cali, Colombia's third most important city, another person died when a wall collapsed.

Update on Earthquake Damage

PA122148 Paris AFP in Spanish 2114 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpt] Bogota, 12 Dec (AFP)--At least 300 people were killed and 4,000 wounded, many seriously, following a violent earthquake today on the Colombian Pacific seaboard. Also, 20 towns were completely destroyed. The earthquake is unprecedented in intensity and occurred near the Ecuadorean border. The towns of El Charco and Tumaco port, in Narino Department, were the most affected by the violent earthquake which was followed by a tidal wave. According to the Los Andes Geophysical Institute in Bogota, the earthquake reached 7.1 on the Richter scale.

M-19 LEADER CAPTURED, TO BE COURT-MARTIALED

PA112057 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Bucaramanga--A ranking leader of the clandestine M-19 subversive movement was captured a few hours ago in Aguachica by 5th brigade units. He is Gustavo Gomez Rico, an agronomy engineer who is the M-19 Movement's second in command in southern Cesar. He has been turned over to penal military instruction judge no. 109. Weapons of various clabers and abundant seditious propaganda were found in Gomez' possession. Gomez Rico was imprisoned in Bogota a few months ago after being charged with arms trafficking, but he was released shortly after for lack of evidence. The military spokesmen who confirmed his arrest in Aguachica announced his transfer to the capital, where he will probably participate in the verbal court-martial currently underway at La Picota jail against Dr Carlos Toledo Plata's followers. It is felt that with Gomez Rico's capture, an important M-19 cell has been dismembered in the east.

M-19 TRIAL SUSPENDED DUE TO LEGAL COMPLICATIONS

PA121951 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0547 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 11 Dec (EFE)--The verbal court martial of 216 alleged members of the subversive M-19 group has been suspended until further notice for noncompliance with current laws. Jorge Enrique Cipagauta Galvis, counsel for theater director Carlos Duplat Sanjuan, told EFE the lawyers involved in the trial that began on 25 November motioned for the suspension in accordance with supreme court provisions. Some time ago, the national government issued a decree suspending the reading of the dossiers in court martial hearings, but the supreme court later ruled the decree unconstitutional. Therefore, the verbal court martial that had dispensed with the reading of the dossiers will have to be annulled and a new one convened or the hearings will be resumed and more than 80,000 pages of dossiers will be disclosed.

POLICE RESCUE RANCH OWNER KIDNAPED BY FARC

PA112050 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--Police and Administrative Department of Security [DAS] units today rescued ranch owner Jaime Torres Ordonez after they engaged last night in a long clash with alleged Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] guerrillas in Vistahermosa, Meta Department. Ret Col Silvio Cardona Alvarez, sectional DAS chief for Villavicencio, confirmed this morning that Torres Ordonez, who the guerrillas had kidnaped in Vistahermosa, was not injured in the clash. According to Colonel Cardona Alvarez, it is not yet known whether there are any casualties. Police and seventh brigade reinforcements, he said, were deployed to the area this morning.

BRIEFS

U.S. CITIZENS ARRESTED--Bogota--The Administrative Department of Security today arested eight North Americans, including several women, accused of swindling and carrying out activities prohibited by Colombian law because they came to the country with tourist visas. Some of the arrested persons are: Robert Lee Black, John (Lapshur), William (Kate) Erickson, Anna Francis (Keeney), Barbara Nancy Wilson, William Lee Power and Richard Power. [Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Dec 79 PA]

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON TREATY REJECTION ANNIVERSARY

PA121944 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Text] The Panamanian peoples' struggle against the Filos-Hines Agreement in December 1947 culminated when the people defeated the Liberal Party administration in power and Yankee imperialism. This victory was most important in the Panamanian peoples' battle to oust imperialism from our soil.

The preceding passage is included in a communique the Panamanian Peoples Party issued on the occasion of the 32d anniversary of the rejection of the Filos-Hines Agreement on U.S. military bases. That victory, the communique added, eventually led to the most important victory for the Panamanian people. On 1 October 1979, the implementation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties marked the end of colonialism.

LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA VIEWS U.S. TREATY VIOLATIONS

PA102256 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 10 Dec 79 p 4-A PA

[Editorial: "Military Coordination Between Panama and the United States"]

[Text] The agreement for implementing article VI of the Panama Canal treaty calls for the creation of a joint committee. It is one of five binational organizations which should have been functioning with the implementation of the above-mentioned pacts. The only committee, however, that has been meeting periodically is the one dealing with coordination and regulations of the public services and civilian activities in military coordination areas and defense sites in the former canal zone. The members of the committee are Col Armando Contreras representing Panama and Col Charles Simons representing the United States.

Our country has not only appointed the participants for the four other binational organizations but it has also published the appointment of the Panamanians who will represent us on the board of directors of the new canal organization. Regrettably these organizations have not yet been able to meet because of the serious delay on the part of the United States in appointing its five representatives. All this is indicative of the unjustified serious shortcoming in the compliance of certain clauses which could possibly have regrettable consequences. This has left the responsibility for the administration and management of the canal in the hands of only the U.S. administrator and the Panamanian deputy administrator. Fortunately, both are very capable.

The reasons for Washington's delay have not been revealed, but we can imagine they are purely bureaucratic. The military, however, are giving the civilians an example since they have been fulfilling all their commitments faithfully and have established an important rapport, avoiding problems or solving those which have come up and thereby maintaining relations at a cordial level.

The Torrijos-Carter treaties call for the establishment of a series of mechanisms to seek the harmony and understanding to create a new relationship which the two government consider the true spirit of the agreements. As is evident, when one of the parties violates the agreement, not only in the letter but also in its spirit, the negative effects can be immediately felt. We must never forget, and neither must our counterpart, that not only must we deal with complex matters continuously but we must deal with two very different communities. In spite of the fact that one of them has suffered a real trauma in lifestyle, it is fundamental that we must live harmoniously and peacefully since our international commitment is not between two governments but between the persons who have the executive responsibility for acting and complying.

MATUTINO PREDICTS U.S. INVASION IN CARIBBEAN

PA120049 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 11 Dec 79 p 4A PA

[Luis Restrepo Rosas article "Operation Green Lightning"]

[Text] Several weeks ago Washington announced the deployment of many U.S. warships to the Caribbean. At the same time Cuba was invaded through Guantanamo Bay--and the U.S. naval base established there by force against Cuba in 1904--in a training exercise. During these same weeks, or months, U.S. expeditionary forces have been undergoing intense training in military bases in Florida, Texas and New Mexico. Military bases in Puerto Rico and the former Panama Canal Zone have been strengthened. A joint command headquarters has been established in Florida with the most modern and sophisticated electronic equipment

The admiral commander in chief of U.S. forces in the Caribbean has said in a thundering voice "he will not allow another Cuba in the area." It has also been reported, although not definitely confirmed, that a plan called "Operation Green Lightning" is being developed. According to this plan drafted by the Pentagon, at a given moment an invasion would be launched against Central America, Panama and the Caribbean nations, including Haiti and Santo Domingo. It being said the last two nations have agreed to participate actively and directly in "Operation Green Lightning."

The Purpose

The purpose of "Operation Green Lightning" is clear. We do not have to delve too deeply to see what it is all about. The first stop in "Operation Green Lightning" is to be Nicaragua because in the United States sinister forces are mobilized to destroy the Nicaraguan Government, to reinstall Somoza, if possible, or to install the dictatorship of one of the generals who fled in the face of the imminent victory of the Sandinist popular forces. Elements who are ready to cooperate with the United States in this campaign are being mobilized in Nicaragua. The same can be said of neighboring countries, especially Honduras which is becoming the base for "Operation Green Lightning" and will apparently be the launching site for the invasions coordinated by the naval command in the Caribbean. The first stage of the invasion is already underway materially and psychologically. Terrorist elements are being trained and organized in Honduras to form the invasion's first wave which will be in charge of destroying, through terror, the Nicaraguan people's opposition. It is well known that a somber campaign has been unleashed against the Nicaraguan Government. This campaign includes lies and accusations of alleged differences with countries like Panama and Costa Rica. This campaign continues. It has not ceased despite statements like those made last week in Panama by top Panamanian government figures.

The Reason

Ever since the last century the United States, by its own right and by divine mandate, as one of its presidents said, declared the Caribbean its own property. Countless documents, many of them horribly crass, show that this nation has stopped at nothing to maintain its imperialist policy. It launched a war against Spain, grabbed Cuba, annexed Puerto Rico, took Panama and invaded Santo Domingo economically and militarily. There is now pressure against Jamaica, Belize, Grenada and Guyana. There has been violent persecution of all those who struggled for social justice in the area. There has been support for brutal dictatorships like that of Francois Duvalier and his son, Jean Claude in Haiti; of Rafael Leonidas Trujillo in Santo Domingo; Batista in Cuba and all the dictators imposed by the bloodthirsty "Mamita Yunai" [United Fruit Company], guilty of murdering 30,000 banana workers in Central America who dared to ask for better salaries and benefits.

"Operation Green Lightning" is presently operating in the so-called "Triangle of the Caribbean": Guantanamo, Puerto Rico, and Panama. [paragraph continues]

Panama, despite the new Panama Canal treaties, is still occupied by the U.S. invaders, who have brazenly violated the treaty of neutrality of the canal through the militarization of the Caribbean, where they are possibly building nuclear installations defying the Tlaltelolco Pact.

NEWSPAPER CRITICAL OF VENEZUELAN TAX ON FREE ZONE

PA102012 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 10 Dec p 4-a PA

[Article by Harmodio Icaza: "The Venezuelan Pearl Harbor"]

[Excerpt] At the same time that Panamanian Government officials and Venezuelan representatives of Luis Herrera Campins were signing a $2 billion loan that will shortly launch new industries and public works in Panama and celebrating the fact that Venezuela was going to sell petroleum to Panama at a very low price, something unbelievable was taking place in another part of our country. It all began last weekend when the shady representatives of an almost Mafia-style organization--the members of the municipal council of Marino, Nueva Esparta State, Venezuela--arrived. They arrived at the same time that the Venezuelan Santa Claus mission arrived in Panama.

The municipal representatives did not advise the Foreign ministries of Venezuela or Panama of their visit and they did not even request an appointment with the Colon Free Zone authorities. They merely went about engaging in the most extraordinary case of piracy our hemisphere has seen this century.

As it turned out, the Venezuelan municipal officials had met with their economic mentor, a man named Francis Patty--who could very well be called Sir Francis Drake, Jr--and discussed the amount of Panamanian cargo that arrives in the free zone of Margarita [under Marino District control].

Apparently the Marino municipal officials started wondering why they--who do not have petroleum in the area--could not charge more taxes to the Panamanians who trade in Margarita. Immediately, Sir Francis came up with a municipal law on the industrial and commericial license of the District of Marino and proposed that Panamanian businessmen be included in Article 52 of the law which reads as follows:

"The distributors, agents and representatives as well as all persons doing business for themselves or for others are compelled to pay municipal taxes and withhold taxes from their representatives' gross income, including their commissions, and turn this money over to the municipal treasury within the next 3 days, regardless of whether the taxpayer has obtained a license from the Marino District as provided for by Article 3 of this law..."

In other words, the Municipality of Marino, located in Venezuela, is taxing the businessmen who use the Colon Free Zone. The tax is retroactive for 7 years in order to get several million dollars from the businessmen. At the same time, the municipality advises them that the tax will double in January 1980.

Saying that these businessmen have merchandise in storage and in ships anchored at their port and that they have money in their banks, the uninvited "guests" clearly said that if the provisions of the law are not met, they will freeze the funds of those businessmen, seize the merchandise, and fine the Panamanian buyers.

This was a declaration of war on the good will of Venezuela toward Panama, on the words of Herrera Campins, on the visit of the high-level commission and on the Royo-Herrera Campins agreements. All this took place on the same day that all sorts of promises and millions were announced to the press. In other words, all these announcements took place on the same day that the users of the free zone and this country's manufacturers and industrialists had their throats slit.

BELIZE

TORRIJOS' STOPOVER GENERATES SPECULATION ON DEFENSE GUARANTEE

FL121445 Belize City THE REPORTER in English 9 Dec 79 pp 1, 8 FL

[Text] The quickie visit of Panama's strongman, General Omar Torrijos to Belize last Tuesday so soon after the general elections has stimulated a lot of speculation.

Radio Belize has announced that the general took the opportunity of a re-fuelling stop to knock heads with the premier, Mr. George Price. But political observers are wondering whether Panama and Nicaragua might not be cooking up some kind of defence guarantee to enable Belize to get her independence quickly.

Belize is not a convenient stop-over for fuel supplies. Unless the general has been visiting Cuba, and in any case the two-hour hop from Panama to Belize City does not consume a great deal of fuel.

Independence continues to be the main theme of the government in power in Belize, and is the principal bone of contention with half the country's population, who don't want it under PUP management. British assurances of a referendum made by the last British Labour government may not be binding on the Conservative government of Mrs. Margaret Thatcher. Then, too, the recent elections may be considered a directive from the electorate which would be difficult for any British Government to ignore.

If this is so, Belizeans may have to prepare themselves psychologically for new moves aimed at working out some arrangement which would neutralize a Guatemalan military threat.

Discussing this aspect of Belize's foreign policy last week the London-based BULLETIN on Caribbean affairs "INSIGHT" notes that the PUP have never made any secret of the fact that they regard Cuba as a Caribbean neighbour and a potential friend, and comments that this is certain to worry the United States Government.

INSIGHT goes on to make the point: "As they (the U.S.) currently perceive any movement of this kind in Central America as a potential threat to what they regard as their interests, it could well be that the U.S. will now take a more positive stance in supporting the right wing Guatemalan administration."

COSTA RICA

HONDURAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES; DISCUSSES FORMATION OF BLOC

PA122114 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpts] Honduran Foreign Minister Eliseo Perez Cadalso arrived in Costa Rica aboard a Honduran Air Force plane today at 0830. He was met by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier, Deputy Foreign Minister Bern Niehaus and leading Foreign Ministry officials.

When he met with his Honduran counterpart, Calderon said Central American countries should act in concert in view of the present international situation. Along these lines, he said the Honduran foreign minister, who is visiting us today, is on a tour of the Central American countries and Panama to arrange the creation of a bloc to make their weight felt at the meeting of American countries to be held in San Jose in January.

According to the Honduran foreign minister, there are many new Caribbean countries facing a great many needs. These can be more easily met if a solid bloc within Central America is formed to struggle for solutions to common problems. Perez said this was the consensus at the meeting.

EL SALVADOR

U.S. EMBASSY IN SAN SALVADOR EVACUATED AFTER BOMB SCARE

PA130012 Paris AFP in Spanish 2345 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 12 Dec (AFP)--The U.S. Embassy in San Salvador was quickly evacuated at noon today after an anonymous telephone caller reported that a high-explosive bomb had been placed in the embassy.

The embassy's security personnel immediately ordered the 300 people in the embassy, among them embassy staff and citizens processing visas and other papers, to leave the building.

At 1430 the embassy gates were still closed while a security cordon formed by the Salvadoran police guarded the embassy.

Thus far, the search of the building by embassy security personnel has been unsuccessful.

The U.S. Embassy in San Salvador is located in a residential sector near the National University. Last night a bomb exploded in the Israeli Embassy. Several embassies have been threatened with similar attacks.

ERP CLAIMS CREDIT FOR EXPLOSION AT ISRAELI EMBASSY

PA121828 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1309 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 12 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--A bomb exploded last night at the Israeli Embassy in the Caceres-Avellis building in downtown San Salvador.

In a telephone call to the ACAN-EFE offices, a male voice said the Revolutionary Peoples Army (ERP) claimed credit for the explosion. The operation was carried out in opposition to fascist Zionism and any kind of racism, the allies of imperialism and the enemies of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The anonymous caller said ERP squads placed explosives at the embassy and said they wanted to express their solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people and their legitimate PLO representatives. The ERP guerrillas also voiced solidarity with the leftwing Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces currently holding the South African ambassador to El Salvador hostage. The ERP voiced solidarity with the struggles of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Foreign Ministry Expresses Regrets

PA121829 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1616 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 12 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--On behalf of the revolutionary government junta, the Salvadoran Foreign Ministry today expressed its regrets to the Israeli diplomatic mission in San Salvador for the bomb attack on its office last night.

The diplomatic corps accredited in El Salvador again requested closer surveillance of diplomatic offices to prevent kidnapings such as that of the South African ambassador and attacks such as the one on the Israeli Embassy.

The Revolutionary Peoples Army (ERP) released a second communique at noon today saying that "more than three national policemen and other embassy security officers were killed" during the attack on the Israeli Embassy. Judicial authorities have not confirmed the underground group's report.

The ERP communique says confusing reports were issued on the 16 October uprising. The reports were obtained by international news agencies from street disturbances in which arms of every caliber were used. It was impossible to gain access to Mejicanos and San Marcos, the areas occupied on that date.

The ERP reiterated that it and not the Peoples Liberation Forces (FPL) killed National Guardsman Lieutenant Castillo. On that occasion, ACAN-EFE received anonymous phone calls in which several groups claimed credit for the incident. The ERP communique came later. The ERP says it and not the FPL placed boobytraps at the National Guard and National Police general headquarters in February.

MAJANO DENIES COUNTRY HEADING FOR COMMUNISM

PA120439 Paris AFP in Spanish 1835 GMT 11 Dec 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 11 Dec (AFP)--Col Arnoldo Majano, member of the Salvadoran revolutionary government junta, today here denied his country is heading for communism. Majano made the statement in reply to charges voiced against the government during yesterday's demonstration in San Salvador, organized by a group called peace and work, under the sponsorship of the National Association of Private Enterprise.

Majano praised the civic spirit of the Salvadoran women, thanked them for their participation in the demonstration and noted that the social and economic reforms in the country will be carried out without any connections with anarchic doctrines.

The junta member condemned the intervention of ultraright groups against yesterday's march, which resulted in three dead and several wounded, as well as several automobiles and buses burned on the city streets. He said, furthermore, the armed forces are prepared to guarantee the Salvadorans' order and tranquillity and warned that the law will be applied to all those who violate it.

The confrontation between the ultraleft and the ultraright became evident in El Salvador yesterday, although both extremes attack the government and point to what they view as its defects.

The ultraright claims the country is heading for communism and the ultraleft accuses the government of playing into the hands of capitalism.

The government, meanwhile, has announced its decision to implement the working plans defined in the armed forces proclamation issued on the night of 15 October when the regime of Gen Carlos Humberto Romero was overthrown.

San Salvador was calm today, but a rally has been announced for Wednesday by the National Trades Union to support some sectors on strike and to bring pressure on the government.

The General Union of Workers of the construction industry of El Salvador has announced what has been described as a march of the unemployed for Thursday. Other opposition groups are also preparing demonstrations during the course of the week--all against the government.

Meanwhile, confidential negotiations continue here for the release of South African ambassador in El Salvador, Archibald Dunn, who was kidnaped by the People's Liberation Forces on 20 November.

SPECIAL COMMISSION REPORTS ON BODIES OF MISSING PERSONS

PA100047 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1634 GMT 9 Dec 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 9 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The special commission for the investigation of political prisoners and missing persons of El Salvador has so far discovered the bodies of 26 persons who were allegedly held by the authorities during previous administrations.

The commission is made up of Roberto Lara Velado, Luis Alonso Posada and Roberto Suarez Suay. The latter is the country's general prosecutor.

The commission reported that 14 bodies had been buried for 3 to 4 months and were covered with plastic or sheets. The remains of 12 persons, presumably men, had been buried for approximately 4 years.

The bodies of a young woman and a man which the commission presumes were Dr Maria Tereza Hernandez Saballos and Jesus Nicolas Palacios Gutierrez, a driver whose body was identified by his relatives, were found 12 km north of the capital. Some of the cadavers have been identified but most of them have not.

The commission has urged the relatives of prisoners and missing persons to keep going to the morgue of the San Salvador general cemetery to identify the bodies being found.

GUATEMALA

TECHNICAL, FINANCIAL AID OFFERED TO NICARAGUA

PA121856 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez today reported that the Guatemalan Government has offered financial and technical aid to the new Nicaraguan Government. He said he has signed an aid agreement with Nicaraguan Foreign Minister D'Escoto.

NICARAGUAN 'TERRORIST GROUP' BLAMED FOR RECENT DEATHS

PA121752 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1923 GMT 11 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 11 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The possibility that a Nicaraguan terrorist group in charge of killing Nicaraguan refugees is operating in Guatemala was noted in political and investigative circles today. The possibility has arisen following last Sunday's killing of three Nicaraguan businessmen and a Guatemalan who was with them.

Pursuing the investigation into what was originally believed to be a traffic violation, eyewitnesses have reported having seen several men spraying gasoline on a vehicle that was later pushed down a steep cliff on a southern road. Inside the automobile, which had a Nicaraguan license plate, were the bullet-riddled bodies of Rodolfo Silva, former manager of A Nicaraguan Central Bank branch, businessman Ramon Molina Gomez and trucking industrialist Felipe Gutierrez Garcia, all refugees living in Guatemala. They were accompanied by Guatemalan Alejandro de Jesus Medrano Mijangos, who was in the garden produce business.

Silva and Molina had just arrived here but were trying to get a residence visa along with Gutierrez, Nicaraguan Ambassador Eleodoro Conrado Flores has reported. The coroner's and ballistics reports indicate that the four bodies had been shot with .38-and .45 caliber guns. When the automobile caught fire, the bodies were so badly burned that they could not be immediately identified. They were buried in a single grave in the local cemetery in Amatitlan, 18 km south of here.

Police intensified their search for the guilty parties today but have not given the names of a couple who saw the car being pushed down the cliff with the bodies inside. Relatives of the victims announced that they will request permission to unearth the bodies so they can be given a more proper burial. Meanwhile, political circles have reported that "the deaths have all the characteristics of a political vendetta which indicates that there is a Nicaraguan terrorist group in Guatemala looking for former officials or friends of deposed President Gen Anastasio Somoza Debayle."

GOVERNMENT DENIES RUMORS OF CABINET CHANGES

PA121640 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Carlos Toledo Vielman, secretary of public relations of the presidency, has denied rumors to the effect that there will soon be some Cabinet changes. He added that President Romeo Lucas Garcia has not made any such announcement. Toledo Vielman said that some Cabinet changes normally take place this time of the year, but this year no changes are forecast. Only the president can make such announcements, Toledo Vielman insisted.

AUTHORITIES HUNT ANTI-MEXICAN 'PROTECTION' LEAGUE

PA122213 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1907 GMT 11 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 11 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemalan authorities began today the pursuit and [word indistinct] of a "National League for the Protection of Guatemala" which is threatening to kill Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo during his announced visit to Guatemala. The "league" claimed responsibility for the poisoning of the animals in the Mexican "Gasca Brothers" circus, in reprisal for the "ill treatment given to Guatemalans in Mexico, especially when they are arrested." In mimeographed leaflets the "league" informed news media that it had been organized "to protect Guatemalans and to reply, blow by blow, to the offenses received by Guatemalans when they migrate to other countries, especially Mexico."

Last weekend several tigers and a hippopotamus were poisoned within the installations of the Mexican circus which was concluding its tour of Guatemala. The poisoned hippopotamus died while the other animals are receiving intensive treatment.

Government Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz said today, "This outlaw group will be hunted down and attacked wherever it is and its members will be arraigned before the courts." The minister said that it could be a "group of common criminals," and guaranteed that the weight of the law will be applied against those who "intend to make still worse the poor image projected by Guatemala abroad."

HONDURAS

OFFICIAL REPORTS PLANS FOR CENTRAL AMERICAN 'SUMMIT'

PA121616 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1527 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Honduran junta press secretary Herman Allan Padgett confirmed today that a "summit" meeting of Central American presidents is being planned. The official Honduran spokesman said that the meeting has been slated for the coming weeks but it is still not known where it will be held as no agreement has been reached on this point.

Padgett said that the following will attend the meeting: Guatemala's Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia, El Salvador's Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano or the entire government junta, the entire Honduran military junta led by Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, the Nicaraguan reconstruction junta, Costa Rica's Rodrigo Carazo Odio and Panama's Aristides Royo.

It seems that the meeting has been convened by the Nicaraguan Government and it is being coordinated by Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto who concluded a tour of Central America here yesterday. Nicaragua is looking for more Central American support to solve a number of major problems such as a shortage of basic grains. It also wants to revive the almost defunct common market.

POSTS AT NICARAGUAN BORDER MOVED 'PRUDENT DISTANCE' AWAY

PA121551 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1510 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran and Nicaraguan governments have agreed to move their surveillance posts to a prudent distance from the common border to prevent armed confrontations, it was officially reported here today. The agreement was reached yesterday during a meeting attended by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto, his counterpart Eliseo Perez Cadalso and the Honduran military government junta.

The Honduran foreign secretary said that "this action is intended to avoid more confrontations between Sandinist troops and Honduran regular troops watching over the common border." He said that this will preclude further press speculation regarding tense relations between the two countries. Foreign Secretary Perez Cadalso added that "the Honduran Government is ready to cooperate with Nicaragua in solving some current priority issues."

Both countries had reinforced their border posts following clashes between patrols that each claimed had crossed into its territory, in addition to several incidents between their diplomatic officials and the police.

NICARAGUA

FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTS ON VISIT TO HONDURAS

PA130254 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto held a brief news conference this morning on his return from Honduras where he met with members of the Honduran Government and Foreign Affairs Secretary Eliseo Perez Cadalso. There were no recriminations, Father D'Escoto said. Honduras and Nicaragua continue to maintain their ties of friendship. Here is part of the foreign minister's statement:

[Begin D'Escoto recording] Companero, it was a very cordial meeting. I was welcomed in a very friendly, warm manner by Foreign Affairs Secretary Eliseo Perez Cadalso at the airport. I and my party and the members of the Nicaraguan press who traveled with me aboard the Sandinist air force plane were immediately taken to the government palace where we were received by Policarpo Paz Garcia, president of the Honduran military junta, and Col Domingo Alvarez Cruz and Col Amilcar Zelaya, the other two members of the junta.

The meeting with the members of the Honduran military junta lasted about 90 minutes and was extremely cordial. The Honduran authorities told us they also regret the incidents which have occurred between our two countries and assured us once again that in no way do they reflect their government's policy.

They reiterated they are very willing to help the Nicaraguan reconstruction process as much as possible.

VICE PRESIDENT OF CUBAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ARRIVES

PA122147 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2115 GMT 12 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 12 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers, arrived in Nicaragua today heading an 11-person delegation that will complete aspects of the educational cooperation agreement signed between the two countries. Fernandez was interviewed by ACAN-EFE in the conference room of the Education Ministry. He said during this, his second visit to Managua, he will discuss a way to extend the services of Cuban teachers to school-age children with Nicaraguan authorities.

He said he will also discuss Cuban assistance to the public Education Ministry in the areas of technical education, physical education, vocational guidance and advice in the literacy campaign with the [education] minister and Nicaraguan officials.

He also said he will check to see how the 1,200 Cuban teachers who are teaching classes in the rural areas are doing. "We will find out how they are adjusting to the culture of this country, their participation in educational programs, their difficulties and needs which we are sure are important."

Nicaraguan Education Minister Carlos Tunnerman said the delegation headed by Fernandez will complete the cooperation program for technical education through which Cuba will send a team of 30 experts, four of whom arrived today. The Cuban delegation will stay in this capital for several days.

GOVERNMENT PREPARES PLAN FOR COMMON MARKET REORGANIZATION

PA111514 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2007 GMT 10 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 10 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The Sandinist government hopes to negotiate for special treatment from other area governments in order that it may participate, during a "transition" period, in a reorganized Central American Integration System to which it would like to contribute its views. This is stated in the "plan for economic reactivation and emergencies in 1980" that was prepared by seven technical government groups. Public debate on the plan will begin this week. In the cahpter on the Central American common market the plan notes the need to select a task force to draft a new economic policy for the regional market, which is presently in a state of crisis. "Geographic, economic and political considerations make it advisable for Nicaragua to seek formulas to incorporate Central American integration into its own development strategy," the plan says.

The plan emphasizes that the postulates of the revolution are directed toward a society and an economy that are qualitatively different from those of other countries in the area. However, this does not necessarily mean that the bases that form the foundation of an integration process are being eroded.

The document states that "in view of the political changes that have occurred in Central America in past months, it would be absurd to try to reinstate an integration process that responded to very different requirements in the 1960's." "At that time," the document states, "the objective was merely to promote economic growth with equitable remuneration for the factors of production. This was to serve as a mechanism to regenerate optimum markets." The document adds that "this only contributed to the system of 'concentrating' the income of the region," and gave disproportionate benefits to the dominant forces in each country."

Among the reforms the Nicaraguan Government feels should be made in the juridical structure of the Central American common market is the inclusion of clauses to provide for exceptions to the general rules. These exceptions could be applied in emergency situations such as that existing in this country as a result of the civil war. Nicaragua believes that "there is excessive confidence in the market mechanisms and if the basic rules of the process used in the 1960's were to be applied to the Central America of the 1980's, investment would tend to be channeled away from Nicaragua toward countries in which capital gains would be greater. Later, finished goods would be introduced into the Nicaraguan market through the expedient of free trade." This means that "a literal interpretation of the integrational commitments acquired by Nicaragua could at a specific moment prevent the adoption of economic policies that are urgently needed to achieve the objectives of the revolutionary process."

According to the economic plan, "if the common tariff is maintained or if preferential ties are sought with third countries, there could come a time in which regional commitments would prevail over aspects of internal economic policy."

Nicaragua will point out to the other governments of the area the need to keep integration from being "an instrument of development for all countries." [as received] This does not indicate a desire to have the integration process restructured in Nicaragua's image at this time, "but rather to see that it is restructured with sufficient flexibility to allow each of the countries to find in the restructured integration process concrete solutions that help solve their particular development problems."

Nicaragua plans to maintain bilateral trade agreements with Panama and Honduras and multilateral agreements with El Salvador, Guatemala and Costa Rica, provided that special treatment is negotiated to allow Nicaragua to waive the free trade and common tariff requirements.

The document explains that "the precise mechanism of this special regime would have to be agreed upon in the corresponding forums, but the objective would be to maintain free access of Nicaraguan products to the markets of associated countries, while imports would have to be subject to the priorities established by the Nicaraguan Government." The document warns, however, that the "transition period would not culminate in a return to the pre-existing situation but rather in a properly restructured integration process."

HUMBERTO ORTEGA ISSUES CALL FOR NATIONAL AUSTERITY

PA112308 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpts] Humberto Ortega, commander in chief of the army and a member of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] National Directorate, has issued a call for austerity which will benefit all Nicaraguan people.

We have assumed power, he said, but we have not won the battle of achieving our historical goal of establishing a new humane society in which the austerity we must practice now will yield great fruits. Ortega said austerity means one does not follow a policy of consumption for its own sake. Also, one does not give expensive presents when its worth is not appreciated because of a lack of awareness. He particularly addressed the Sandinists, indicating that to the extent they are more austere and make more sacrifices, they will achieve moral strength before the people.

The FSLN Directorate is undertaking a campaign to eliminate superfluous expenditures and the importation of luxury items. Also, the campaign promotes consumption of domestic products instead of imported goods such as some food, liquor and toys which results in a heavy drain of foreign exchange. Besides archaic economic structures, the past regime also left a large part of the industry destroyed and chronic unemployment which currently affects close to 40 percent of the labor force.

DELEGATION TO RENEGOTIATE FOREIGN DEBT APPOINTED

PA082332 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2018 GMT 8 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 8 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Nicaragua will send a delegation to Mexico on Wednesday to participate in the first meeting on the renegotiation of the country's foreign debt with the creditor commercial banks.

The delegation is headed by Alfredo Cesar, minister-director of the International Reconstruction Fund [FIR] for the national reconstruction of Nicaragua. The delegation is made up of Finance Minister Joaquin Cuadra, Central Bank President Arturo Cruz, Planning Minister Roberto Mayorga, Emilio Baltodano, secretary general of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, and Carlos Zarruck, FIR deputy minister.

The meeting with representatives of the commercial banks will be held in the "main room" of the Mexican Foreign Secretariat on 14 December.

Nicaragua has a foreign debt of $1.5 billion.

It was reported that this year's budget did not include any amount to amortize the debt.

The Nicaraguan Government has also announced that part of the foreign debt in question will not be repaid because it involves funds used to buy weapons for the previous regime or because there were fraudulent aspects or exorbitant commissions in the credits granted.

GOVERNMENT SEEKS RETURN OF PROFESSIONALS ABROAD

PA112140 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Dec 79 PA

[Text] The second seminar for the recovery of Nicaraguan brainpower abroad will be held in Germany during the first few days of 1980. This refers to the professionals who have left the country in the past few months and the students who studied abroad and have not yet wanted to return to Nicaragua. Companero Julio Cesar Aviles, head of the consular section of the Foreign Ministry, said the intergovernmental committee for European migration is looking up those professionals and urging them to return to Nicaragua.

The Government of National Reconstruction is very interested in getting the professionals to return because there is a lack of technicians in the country. It is contacting the professionals who desire to return through the intergovernmental committee for European migration. The first seminar was held in Germany on 28-29 November. It was attended by some 400 professionals interested in filling out the required applications.

BRIEFS

MEDICINE SHIPMENTS--Health Ministry sources today reported that the medicine requested by our country in August has begunto arrive. The government of national reconstruction had requested $140 million worth from various countries. The first shipments are from Mexico, Switzerland and the FRG. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 5 Dec 79 PA]

CLANDESTINE RADIO LIBERTAD SCORES CHAOTIC ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

PA130428 (Clandestine) Radio Libertad Cubana in Spanish 0200 GMT 13 Dec 79 PA [tentative]

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] It seems what we have been saying in past months is being confirmed by the leaders [words indistinct] of this anti-Cuban regime. We have repeatedly said the Cuban workers have declared war on the antiworker regime, and now the Castro brothers and Ramiro Valdez, members of the gang of 13 and members of the Political Bureau, have acknowledged this.

The Castro brothers, in speeches in Santiago de Cuba and in Villa Clara Province, have said the Cuban working class does not want to work and, after threatening the workers, have attacked members of a new class. This new class enjoys the Chevys and Fiats and can afford to eat breakfast, lunch and dinner in restaurants and cafeterias. Raul Castro, for example, said that in the rural areas peasants work only 4 hours and then go to one of the few remaining small private farms to work for some owner and thereby obtain some food for their families. Then the dictator threatened to implement the labor code. Later the ninth plenary session of the Cuban Communist Party (?made a) study of the country's economic situation and reached the conclusion that here in Cuba no one wants to work.

We are also going to comment on the national situation. We say we have proof that the present Cuban situation presents an insolvable economic situation, even though there is only one obstacle to solving it: the Cuban dictator and the members of the gang of the 13. That is to say, the members of the Political Bureau [words indistinct] for several reasons.

After 20 years it has been proven that the system is bad and the leadership is worse. Fidel Castro and the members of the social scum today have mortally wounded the regime. For example Fidel Castro does not allow anyone to oppose him or tell him the truth about the chaos in which this poor country has been submerged. While his close collaborators tell him what he wants to hear, they will not allow their helpers to tell them the truth and so on down until we reach the levels of business managers and cooperative directors and agricultural projects. These in turn with their falsehoods have demoralized the workers who have realized everything here is just a great lie. The Cuban worker does not have enough for himself and his family to eat. He does not have adequate transportation to travel to his place of work. There are in this all the (?subjective) conditions for a national rebellion against bad leadership.

We want to cite another reason. What moral right do the Castro brothers have to talk of sacrifice and austerity when during these long years they have dedicated the largest part of the national budget to maintaining the gigantic military machine used for the repression of our people and for aggression in foreign lands? Why don't the Castro brothers tell the people--these people whom they criticize so much--that this year the budget for the armed forces amounted to 2 billion Cuban pesos. This does not include the budget for the Interior Ministry and the Foreign Ministry which are used for international subversion. Can they deny these figures, 2 billion pesos yearly for the Armed Forces Ministry [MINFAR]? How much milk for our children, how much meat for our old people, how many busses for transportation of our people could we buy with over 1 billion pesos? It is not just that the Castro brothers need the military machine to repress the people. What they do not want to admit is that in spite of the 1 billion, our glorious armed forces, like the rest of the people and because they are part of the people, have said, enough. The weapons purchased to murder our people will be used to settle accounts against the only and greatly guilty ones--the members of the gang of the 13.

DELEGATE ADDRESSES UN ATOMIC ENERGY MEETING IN NEW DELHI

FL101914 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 10 Dec 79 FL

[Text] New Delhi--Today at the International Atomic Energy Agency Cuba stressed the danger for the peoples struggling for their independence and sovereignty of the possible nuclear explosion carried out recently by South Africa. Dr Fidel A. Castro Diaz, head of the Cuban delegation to the 23d general conference of this organization which is subordinate to the United Nations, stated that it is necessary to intensify the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to prevent nuclear weapons from getting into the hands of those who could endanger world peace. Castro Diaz also stressed Cuban support for the strategic arms limitation agreement between the United States and the USSR. He said that this spirit of detente should also be extended to other regions of the world. The head of the Cuban delegation added that it is necessary that the deployment of force and the threats and provocations which at this time are occuring mainly in the Caribbean region, the Arabian Gulf, the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia cease at once.

Castro Diaz mentioned the need for international cooperation so that those countries in particular which lack energy resources can undertake nuclear development [programs]. He also repeated that nuclear arms are not the maximum desire of any country that proposes to learn and improve on the various uses of atomic energy for their development. Only a rational and planned use of scarce resources, which is what the majority of these countries have, would justify the great investment required by nuclear [energy] programs. In this context the head of the Cuban delegation recalled the remarks of Fidel Castro, president of the nonalined countries movement, at the 34th UN General Assembly session in which he said that the problems of the world cannot be resolved with nuclear weapons.

Dr Fidel A. Castro Diaz added that the Cuban delegation favors increasing the resources of the International Atomic Energy Agency to finance nuclear programs for underdeveloped countries and proposes that the voluntary contributions to the fund of this organization could also be used to provide services of specialists to those countries with scarce resources.

In addition, the Cuban nuclear physicist stated that the economic development objectives of his country establish the need for a substantial increase in its capacity to generate electric energy. Castro Diaz stated that our limited conventional fuels requires that Cuba set up a nuclear energy development plan. At this moment the preparatory tasks are underway to begin construction of the first nuclear generating plant in the central-south region of Cuba. At the same time he added that Cuba is drawing up an agreement on safeguards with the International Atomic Energy Agency for that nuclear generating plant. Lastly, Castro Diaz added that Cuba, along with the rest of the peace-loving countries, will continue working so that the use of atomic energy always serves the well-being and development of our peoples and not their impoverishment or destruction.

CONTINUING REPORTAGE ON IRAQI TRADE MINISTER'S VISIT

Received by Lusson

FL111237 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 11 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Antonio Enrique Lusson, member of the Central Committee and minister of transportation, has received in this capital Hasan 'Ali, member of the Ba'ath Party Regional Command and Iraqi Revolution Command Council and minister of trade. At the meeting they discussed aspects of cooperation between the two countries in the field of transportation, and they expressed their determination to improve work to benefit the interests of the two peoples.

Visits Levi Farah

FL122034 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Dec 79 FL

[Excerpt] Hasan 'Ali al-Amiri, Iraq's minister of trade and member of the Ba'ath Party Regional Command and Revolution Command Council, this morning paid a visit to Levi Farah, minister-president of the State Committee for Construction. The meeting was held in a fraternal atmosphere. Officials of the Iraqi Embassy and State Committee for Construction were present during the talks.

Talks With Carlos R. Rodriguez

FL122253 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2236 GMT 12 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the party Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, today received Hasan 'Ali al-Amiri, member of Iraq's Ba'ath Party Regional Command and Revolution Command Council and minister of trade of that country. In the course of the fraternal meeting, they discussed matters concerned with bilateral economic relations and other topics of mutual interest.

Briefed by Roa Garcia

FL130032 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Raul Roa Garcia, member of the party Central Committee and vice president of the People's Government National Assembly, this afternoon received Hasan 'Ali, member of the Ba'ath Party Regional Command and Iraqi Revolution Command Council and minister of trade of that country. At the fraternal meeting, Roa Garcia explained to the visitor the process of institutionalization carried out in Cuba and various aspects of people's government work. The Iraqi delegation led by Hasan 'Ali asked questions about the functions of the National Assembly.

FIDEL CASTRO MEETS WITH ALGERIAN SPECIAL ENVOY

FL121216 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 12 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Yesterday Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, received Ambassador (Hasairi Idris), special envoy from Algerian President Col Chadli Bendjedid. The Algerian diplomat brought a message from the chief executive of that fraternal country to our commander in chief. The meeting was held in a fraternal and friendly atmosphere.

SYRIAN MILITARY DELEGATION ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

Received by Raul Castro

FL111254 Havana Domestic Servie in Spanish 1145 GMT 11 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR], has received at the FAR Ministry Lt Gen Ahmad Fhahadi, chief of staff of the Syrian Armed Forces. The promienent Syrian military chief heads a delegation from his country which yesterday arrived in our homeland for an official visit. At the meeting with the FAR minister were division generals Senen Casas Regueiro, first vice minister-chief of the general staff, and Sixto Batista Santana, vice minister-chief of the Central Political Directorate, both members of the PCC Central Committee.

Others attending included Col Demetrio Montseny Villa, chief of the FAR Ministry Foreign Relations Directorate. During their stay in our country the Syrian high-level military delegation will visit military units and teaching centers and sites of historical interest.

Visits FAR Centers

FL121313 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 12 Dec 79 FL

[Text] The high-level Syrian military delegation that is in our country headed by Lt Gen Ahmad Fhahadi, chief of staff of the Syrian Armed Forces, has paid tribute to Gen Antonio Maceo by laying a floral wreath at the mausoleum containing his remains at Cacahual. The delegation also visited the Museum of the Revolution, the Granma [yacht] memorial, the Marti monument located in the Plaza de la Revolucion, the Gen Maximo Gomez Revolutionary Armed Forces--FAR--Academy and a brief visit to the Maj Camilo Cienfuegos FAR Artillery School. The visitors were accompanied by the Division Generals Senen Casas Regueiro, first vice minister-chief of the General Staff, and Sixto Batista Santana, vice minister-chief of the FAR Central Political Directorate, both members of the PCC Central Committee. Col Demetrio Montseny, chief of the FAR Ministry Foreign Relations Directorate, also accompanied them on the tour while Mr (Nadel Nadel), Syrian charge d'affaires to Cuba, accompanied them on part of the tour.

FERNANDEZ PADILLA NOTES NEGLIGENCE AT WORK CENTERS

FL112143 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2102 GMT 11 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Proposals for immediate and long-term solutions should be made at this meeting, especially realistic solutions to make a stable and sustained advance in this front possible, Oscar Fernandez Padilla, minister-president of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security, stated in the central report at the second national meeting on work organization.

The document stresses the mistakes, negligence and indiscipline which have led to a standstill and, in some cases, regression of the work organization and wages. This issue was critically examined during the eighth PCC Central Committee plenum. Elsewhere, it states that despite having achieved certain goals, the development of the work organization and wages is insufficient and there is a need for a very serious effort.

Oscar Fernandez Padilla also noted in his report that it is not a matter of finding spectacular solutions at the present time, but to apply systematically concrete measures which would stimulate the development of work productivity, production increase, material savings and improvement of quality. In another part he stated that it is necessary to confront with determination and vigor our own weaknesses and to wage a tenacious struggle against frivolity, carelessness, indiscipline and irresponsibility which are illnesses affecting our work.

The payment of piecework in all those activities where this is possibile will be an essential premise for 1980, Oscar Fernandez Padilla stated. In order to do this it is necessary to strengthen the process of revision, updating and application of standards, the minister-president of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security added.

After the central report had been read, the delegates to the meeting formed five committees to discuss matters dealing with transportation, construction, industries, livestock-agriculture and services. Based on the committees' agreements a work plan will be prepared which will contain concrete tasks of immediate realization in fulfillment of the eighth and ninth plenums of the PCC Central Committee.

16 DECEMBER LABOR MEETING TO BE HELD IN HAVANA

FL101443 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1332 GMT 10 Dec 79 FL

[Text] A trade union conference for Caribbean workers' unity and solidarity will begin on 16 December at the Palace of the Workers in this capital. Jesus Escandel, member of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers--CTC--National Secretariat, has announced that representatives from 59 worker organizations from over 20 Caribbean countries will be attending as guests. Included among the topics to be debated is the world economic and financial crisis and its effects on the standard of living of Caribbean workers. Another matter to be discussed at the trade union congress will be the reinforcement of the U.S. military presence in the area which is a threat to the sovereignty of the peoples and which is an offense against peace in the region.

CARICOM COUNTRIES TO PARTICIPATE IN ANTIGUA MEETING

FL122102 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 12 Dec 79 FL

[Text] All 12 Caribbean Community governments have agreed to participate in the inaugural meeting of CARICOM information ministers in Antigua, which is scheduled to take place between 12 and 14 February of next year. Antigua proposed the meeting some 2 months ago with a view to establishing mechanisms for improving communications among CARICOM governments and avoiding what the Antigua information minister has termed a crisis of confrontation between regional states. The proposed conference will be preceded by a meeting of information officials at which Caribbean publishers and broadcasters will be invited to present statements.

BARBADOS

ADAMS LAUDS MILTON CATO'S VICTORY IN ST VINCENT

FL111500 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 7 Dec 79 p 1 FL

[Text] Barbados Prime Minister Mr. Tom Adams today congratulated St. Vincent Prime Minister Mr. Milton Cato on his resounding victory in yesterday's general election and said Mr. Cato's success was an emphatic rejection of socialism by the Vincentian electorate.

Mr Cato's rightwing St. Vincent Labour Party (SVLP) retained power by winning 11 of the 13 seats, increasing its majority by one. The other two seats were won by the New Democratic Party. The leftist United People Movement led by Mr. Ralph Gonsalves which some analysts expected to do well in fact failed to get a seat.

Mr. Adams was quoted by the state-owned Radio Barbados as saying that the fact that the NDP was the only opposition party to enter Parliament was a clear indication that Vincentians had rejected the "disruptive policies that have created great strains in the Eastern Caribbean."

The radio quoted the Barbadian leader as saying that the victory meant that St. Vincent would no longer become a lackey of hegemony a word often used by the Chinese to describe Soviet expansionism.

Within the last eight months the Soviets and the U.S. have been jostling for spheres of influence in the Caribbean, amid regional warnings of a possible super power confrontation following the coming to power of leftist regimes in Saint Lucia and Grenada.

Radio Barbados said that Mr Adams had despatched his personal assistant, Mr Howard Roberts to Kingstown with a personal handwritten message to Mr Cato, his close friend.

Defends Decision To Send Troops

FL122128 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 12 Dec 79 FL

[Text] The prime minister of Barbados, Tom Adams, has defended his decision to send troops to St Vincent to help crush the rebellion on one of its Ward Islands last week. Speaking in Parliament where the opposition Democratic Labor Party has strongly condemned the decision, Mr Adams said that the governments in the Caribbean dictated that friendly neighbors assist each other. The decision, Mr Adams said, was based on the threat which was posed to the sovereignty of the newly independent Caribbean state of St Vincent and the Grenadines following reports of rebellion on Union Island, an attack at Prune Island and unrest in Bequia. It was the first parliamentary discussion on the Union Island crisis, which started last Friday when a group of men seized the airstrip, the police station and the government revenue office.

Former Prime Minister Barrow accused Mr Adams of usurping authority in sending the troops into St Vincent. Mr Barrow claimed that there was no legal sanction for such action.

DOMINICA

PRIME MINISTER REPORTS ON VISIT TO FRANCE

FL122109 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 12 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Oliver Seraphin announced today that the French Government has indicated its interest in providing Dominica with 200 low-cost homes in rural communities. Mr Seraphin was reporting to the nation on a 3-day official visit to France, the highlight of which was the signing of a treaty of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. The treaty between France and Dominica is expected to produce increased technical and scientific equipment and other assistance to the Caribbean state.

Prime Minister Seraphin has affirmed that the treaty will contribute to the economic development of Dominica as well as guarantee French investments. Before returning to Dominica, Mr Seraphin visited London where, he said, 73 tons of relief supplies were being prepared for shipment to his country which was ravished by Hurricane David in August.

GRENADA

CUBAN EQUIPMENT, TECHNICIANS ARRIVE FOR AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION

FL081307 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Dec 79 FL

[Text] About 2,000 persons were at St George's port to welcome the ship (?Palm Island) which carried heavy equipment for Grenada from Cuba for the construction of a new international airport there. Thirty-three Cuban construction workers also arrived in the ship. They are the first of a group of more than 200 that will be building the airport runway.

Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop made the welcoming speech. He said Cuba was a sincere and true friend of the Grenadian people. In our relations with Cuba and Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, he asserted, we have found a nation and a man of principles, a great revolutionary fighter, and a people and man who are true to their word.

For his part, Cuban Ambassador to Grenada Julian Torres Rizo said the Cuban people do not have surpluses but a long time ago they decided that it would be no good to live in an affluent paradise surrounded by a world of poverty. The building of the airport will begin in the next few weeks. Cuba has promised technicians and equipment for its construction, while other countries like Venezuela and Iraq have promised other contributions.

PRG DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN ST VINCENT REBELLION

FL121540 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Dec 79 p 25 FL

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, Dec. 7 (CANA)--The People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) has denied any involvement in the reported armed take-over this morning of St. Vincent's Union Island in the Grenadines.

Speaking on behalf of the PRG, the deputy secretary for information, Mrs. Phyllis Coard, wife of Finance Minister Bernard Coard, said over Radio Free Grenada that the Grenada Government had not made official contact with the island ward.

Mrs. Coard also said that the PRG had not trained any persons from Union in military tactics, nor was it involved in any arms transaction with anyone from the tiny Grenadines Islands.

She labelled as "foolish, immature and irresponsible" any attempt to discredit the Grenada Government by claiming that it was in any way involved.

The People's Revolutionary Government came into power on March 13 after overthrowing the government of Sir Eric Gairy by force of arms.

Shortly afterwards, the presence of Grenadian troops at Union Island brought a strong protest from the St. Vincent administration. They were said to have gone there in search of Sir Eric, and the St. George's administration later said the action had been unauthorised.

Meanwhile Antigua today pledged "every support and commendation" to Barbados, if it agrees to a request from St. Vincent for military assistance to quell the reported armed uprising on Union Island.

A statement sent to CANA's office in Bridgetown from Antigua's deputy premier, Lester Bird, said: "The Government of Antigua strongly condemns the armed takeover of a police station and airport on Union by a group of dissidents."

RESIDENT AMBASSADORS TO BE EXCHANGED WITH VENEZUELA

FL102046 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 10 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Grenada and Venezuela will exchange resident ambassadors early next year. This follows on a visit by Grenada's prime minister, Maurice Bishop, to Caracas last month and is part of an extensive agreement which was signed between the two countries. A Grenada Government Information Service release today [word indistinct] the details of the agreement which covers finance, [word indistinct], education and (?constant) trade contacts [words indistinct]. A grant of 1.3 million Eastern Caribbean dollars to pay the labor costs in the construction of Grenada's new international airport will be made by the Venezuelan Government; and a 2.7 million Eastern Caribbean dollars line of credit for the purchase of capital goods and consumer products from Venezuela will be extended to Grenada. This amount will be increased in successive years. The release also said that the Venezuelan Government would offer a number of university scholarships starting next year.

JAMAICA

MANLEY SAYS NEW U.S. VIEW OF CARIBBEAN ENCOURAGING

FL061630 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 1 Dec 79 p 1 FL

[Text] A new call for the nations of the world to make a concerted effort to "banish poverty from the world" was made by the prime minister, the Hon, Michael Manley, as he addressed the Miami Conference on the Caribbean on Thursday night.

"We insist that the world will do better when its concerns will be less with quarrels and more with development; less with ideological differences and more with a common concern to banish poverty from the world," he declared.

"But I hope that you understand that we do not say these things as an attack upon anyone but rather because we believe that this is the only safe and sane path by which mankind will walk to a future that is secure because it provides a place for everyone."

Mr. Manley said that United States of America has a responsibility in all of "which is not some affliction of a wayward destiny but is a consequence of the sheer magnitude of its achievements."

"We have been much encouraged by the signs after 1976 that the United States of America is taking a new view of the Caribbean. We have been much encouraged to believe that this view has included a recognition that different people are likely to choose different paths by which they seek their separate salvations."

Mr. Manley said it was his fervent belief that the world would do best on a basis of tolerance and respect for diversity.

"I do not believe that the Caribbean is the scene of some mysterious conspiracy or adventurist plot," he continued. "What I believe is that the Caribbean contains a lot of very poor people who are struggling to find answers to their poverty.

"I think that the United States of America will continue towards its own stature as a great power to the extent that it recognises and respects these small, vigorous and sometimes fractious neighbours to its south, and holds out the hand of co-operation on a basis of respect offered and respect returned, regardless of the size of those who shake hands."

On what he described as "the controversial area of foreign policy," Mr. Manley said there had been recent suggestions that the Government of Jamaica is anti-West and anti-American.

"This is absolutely untrue," he declared.

RADIO JAMAICA SHARES TO BE OFFERED TO MASS ORGANIZATIONS

FL101730 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 6 Dec 79 p 1 FL

[Excerpt] Beginning next week Monday, the government will offer shares in Radio Jamaica [RJR] to mass-based organizations and the staff of the station, ending a situation in which for two years the government held all the equity of the company.

The divestment of the shares and the details of their disposal were agreed on at Monday's meeting of the cabinet. Under the terms of this decision, 21 mass-based organizations will be offered 50.1 per cent of the shares; the station's workers 24.8 per cent; and the government will retain 25.1 per cent.

However, no one organization or individual will be permitted to acquire more than six per cent of the shares. The equity sales will be underwritten by the Jamaica Development Bank.

The only other stipulation laid down by the cabinet decision is that no employee, officer, or director of any other medium organization will be allowed to sit on the board of Radio Jamaica.

JLP CHARGES POLICE TERROR CAMPAIGN AGAINST ITS SUPPORTERS

FL121545 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Dec 79 pp 1, 25 FL

[Excerpt] The Jamaica Labour Party [JLP] charged yesterday that politically-directed elements in the police force and home guard have unleashed a campaign of terror against its supporters, aimed at either reducing them to docility, or forcing them to retaliate.

JLP leader Mr Edward Seaga, said at a press conference that if either objective was achieved, the Peoples National Party would have realized its objective of a "military solution" to its present quest to retain power.

Mr Seaga said that the campaign against JLP supporters in certain areas was being led by special squads located at Ruthven Road and Trafalgar Road. These squads were comprised of elements from the Jamaica house-based group which was disbanded following his earlier exposure of its existence.

Special Squads

"If the present acts of violence against JLP supporters succeed in evoking retaliation, this could form the basis on which to declare another state of emergency," he said.

Mr Seaga said that he had information that the two special squads operating out of Ruthven Road and Trafalgar Road had been active not only in the corporate area, but in the rural parishes as well.

Part of the strategy was to "soften up" certain slum areas--such as Tower Hill, Rose Town and Lower March Pen in St. Catherine which had substantial concentrations of JLP supporters, in preparation to moving them out on the pretext of re-development plans.

Mr Seaga said that he also had an intelligence report that there was a decision to enroll into the home guard the entire staff of the PNP headquarters, as well as all party canvassers. Attempts to get a list of home guards from the Ministry of National Security have been met with the claim that a comprehensive list did not exist, although he had information from security force sources that it did in fact exist.

Mr. Seaga said the JLP was again bringing the pattern of politically-directed violence to the attention of what he called "the moral authorities", in the hope that there would be a more positive response than there had been in the past. He added: "If we sit back, we will be watching the whole democratic system slip out of our grasp".

CZECH, BULGARIAN AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS

FL121555 Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 4 Dec 79 p 16 FL

[Text] Two Eastern European socialist countries, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria, yesterday expressed appreciation for Guyana's domestic and foreign policies and hailed the overall development of the country within recent years.

Czechoslovakia's new ambassador to Guyana, Mr. Milas Vojta, presenting his credentials to President Arthur Chung at Guyana House in the presence of Foreign Minister Cde. Rashleigh Jackson, said:

"In spite of vast distance between our two states, both our nations--the Czechs and Slovaks, have always cherished affection towards the Guyanese people in their struggle and aspirations for national independence political and economic emancipation.

"Furthermore, the Czech Government highly appreciates the political, economic, social and cultural development achieved by the people of your country in recent years, as well as the independent and progressive foreign policy and positive role of Guyana within the non-aligned movement.

"In this regard; I personally witnessed the implementation of this position of the Guyana delegation headed by Prime Minister Forbes Burnham in the course of the Sixth Summit Conference in Havana."

And the Bulgarian ambassador, Mr Boico Dimitrov, presenting his credentials said the Bulgarian people followed with interest and sympathy the efforts of Guyana for the consolidation of its political and economic independence, for economic and social progress of the population.

"We cherish similar feelings of friendship for the Guyanese people.

"We are aware of and we highly respect the significant contribution of the people and Government of Guyana, as a non-aligned country, to the common cause of all the progressive forces of humanity against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, racism, apartheid, exploitation and hegemonism."

Replying, Cde. Chung agreed that the people of Guyana and Czechoslovakia shared the same aspirations and were united in their endeavours for a just and democratic society. He said these ideals could be achieved with the efforts of both countries and those of all friendly countries in the strengthening of the United Nations system.

With regard to Bulgaria, Cde. Chung referred to the political, economic, social and cultural developments in that country and added: "We in Guyana are anxious to increase contact with countries with larger experience in the practice of socialism as we believe an exchange of ideas and experience will be mutually beneficial to both sides."

ARGENTINA

GOVERNMENT TO INVEST $50 BILLION IN ENERGY PROGRAM

PY121517 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 12 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Argentina will invest $27 billion to put into effect the generation and distribution of the electricity program, but by the end of the century this sum will increase to $50 billion. This was disclosed yesterday by Energy Secretary Daniel Brunella, who held a press conference in which he disclosed Argentina's energy program until the year 2000. Concerning the present activity of Government Oil Deposits [YPF], Brunella said that the new YPF board will continue the guidelines established by the Energy Secretariat in 1976. He also reported that it has been decided that in the next few years Argentina will purchase oil on the basis of prices established by OPEC. He added, moreover, that the entire energy program is being carried out in a satisfactory manner.

CONTRACT FOR HYDROCARBON DEVELOPMENT IN SALTA SIGNED

PY122031 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 12 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Through Decree No 3121, the executive branch has approved the contract between Government Oil Deposits [YPF] and [names indistinct] on hydrocarbon exploration, exploitation and production in (Atambuco), an area covering 2,200 sq km located in Salta near the localities of Tartagal and Masa. In the exploration stage, which will last 5 years, the contractors will invest $28 million. The deadline for the exploitation and production stages has been established at 20 years.

BOLIVIA

700 PEASANTS HOLD HUNGER STRIKE

PY130111 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Dec 79 PY

[Excerpt] The peasants of Asunta village are holding a hunger strike. This decision was made by the union of farmworkers of the Subyungas Province of La Paz Department. Over 700 people, including women and children, have taken over a school where they are trying to draw the attention of the government to their problems by means of a hunger strike which began yesterday afternoon.

BRAZIL

PETROBRAS CONCERNED OVER OIL SUPPLY; IRAQ GUARANTEES SHIPMENTS

PY121549 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 12 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Iraq guarantees and always will guarantee that it will supply oil to Brazil under any circumstances whatsoever, according to Iraqi Oil Minister Tayih 'Abo al-Karim, who made this statement during his speech at Itamaraty. Shortly befor making his speech, the Iraqi minister met with Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro, Energy and Mines Minister Cesar Cals, Industries and Commerce Minister Camilo Penna, and Finance Minister Karlos Rischbieter. The meeting, held at Itamaraty, was also attended by Brazilian Petroleum Corporation [PETROBRAS] President Shigeaki Ueki. The meeting was very short because no international agreements were signed. Even though reports from the Foreign Ministry insisted that the Iragi minister had not come to conduct negotiations of any sort, the diplomats made great efforts to avoid any encounter between him and the press.

Meanwhile, concern over the oil supply is great. For example, the PETROBRAS commercial director stated that should it be impossible to renew the contract with Iraq under the same conditions of 150,000 barrels per day, it will be necessary to look for alternative sources. Carlos Santana added that Venezuela, Mexico and China are the short-term options which PETROBRAS has to substitute for Iranian oil. Even so, he believes that 80 percent of Brazilian oil needs in 1980 will be supplied through long-term contract. Santana also said that he will find out for sure whether Iran wants PETROBRAS to pay one-quarter of its imports from this country at open prices when he travels there next week.

There is no unease regarding Iraq. Of the 400,000 barrels per day to be imported during 1980, 240,000 barrels are guaranteed by contract. The other 160,000 barrels must be renegotiated because this volume is flexible.

It is Santana's opinion that if during its upcoming meeting in Caracas OPEC decides on a 10- to 15-percent increase in the price of oil it would be a moderate one and could be absorbed by the importing countries.

Regarding the gasoline that is being exported by PETROBRAS, Santana said that we are exporting gasoline at $43 per barrel, double the price we are paying for crude oil, and he asserted, it is a profitable business.

COMMUNIST LEADER PRESTES SEES CATHOLIC CHURCH AS 'ALLY'

PY120149 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 11 Dec 79 p 5 PY

[Excerpt] Speaking at a seminar called "popular meeting for democracy" held last Sunday in Lapa, Sao Paulo, Luis Carlos Prestes, secretary general of the Brazilian Communist Party [PCB], stated that the Catholic Church is the best ally of the communists. After noting that the pastoral letter of the National Conference of Brazilian Bishops had criticized the national security doctrine, Prestes stated that the Catholic Church is "the most progressive in the world, including most members of its hierarchy. The first man to strive for amnesty was Cardinal Paulo Evaristo Arns."

At the meeting which was attended by politicians, students, and members of groups and associations from poor districts, Prestes said that today religion is "no longer a basic issue for the PCB," even though until 1964 the church had been "the worst enemy" of the communists. He said: We do not discriminate between Catholics and Protestants. A communist must respect every form of religion. We are not atheists.

CNBB Leader Replies

PY120151 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 11 Dec 79 p 5 PY

[Excerpt] Porto Alegre--Dom Ivo Lorscheiter, president of the CNBB [National Conference of Brazilian Bishops], said yesterday that "if Luis Carlos Prestes, secretary general of the Brazilian Communist Party, wants to consider himself as an ally of the church, he must first get Russia to grant freedom of worship, to practice democracy and to respect human rights."

Dom Ivo Lorscheiter said that Prestes, who last Sunday in Sao Paulo stated that the Catholic Church was the communists' best ally, "was utterly wrong." On that occasion Prestes cited the CNBB document entitled "Christian Demands for a Political Order," which is critical of the current government policy giving priority to national security. Bishop Lorscheiter said that the national security ideology of both liberal capitalism and Marxism are equally condemned in the final document of the Puebla Episcopal Conference.

CHILE

NUCLEAR ENERGY AGREEMENT WITH URUGUAY RATIFIED

PY112015 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 11 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Chile and Uruguay have made official the agreement on the peaceful use of nuclear energy. The agreement was signed in Santiago, Chile on 19 July, seeking the exchange of know-how and experiments on this matter between Chilean and Uruguayan scientists. The decree released by the foreign minister was published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE. It carries the signature of the president of the republic and of the members of the government military junta.

URANIUM PLANT TO BE SET UP IN CHUQUICAMATA MINE

PY130141 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Antogagasta, Chile, 12 Dec (LATIN)--The Chilean Nuclear Energy Commission today announced the creation of a uranium plant in the Chuquicamata copper mine which will yield approximately 40 tons annually during its initial stage of operation. Rolando Soto, acting executive director of the commission, reported that the basic engineering studies will start in the first half of next year. He noted that the uranium exploitation project was initiated when the commission put into motion a national plan for radioactive resources aimed at assessing the country's uranium deposits.

He said: "We have proved that there is uranium oxide in Chuquicamata and that it is possible to recover it from copper at an economic cost which makes its exploitation absolutely profitable." He added that the commission had signed an agreement with the Copper Corporation (CODELCO), owner of the Chuquicamata mines, to exploit the uranium.

MEXICO

GOVERNMENT REMAINS DETERMINED TO STAY OUT OF OPEC

PA071544 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1207 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 6 Dec (EFE)--Jorge Diaz Serrano, director of the state-owned Mexican Petroleum (PEMEX), said in this capital today that Mexico has not changed its mind about staying out of OPEC. "We want to practice self-determination," the official said on explaining the Mexican position to the press. He added that his country's independence regarding OPEC is "desirable," particularly at this turbulent period in the international oil situation. "So far, there is nothing that can make Mexico change its decision to remain outside the organization," Diaz Serrano added. The PEMEX director reiterated that Mexico does not intend to increase oil sales to the United States outside of the established program as a result of the crisis in Iran.

The PEMEX sales program designed in late 1976 provided for gradually increasing Mexico's supply of oil to the United States. It has been estimated that under this program Mexico will sell 776,000 barrels of crude per day to the United States in 1980. However, a PEMEX spokesman recently told EFE that this quantity might be reduced because of new commitments acquired by the enterprise. Mexico currently sends some 500,000 barrels a day to its northern neighbor. Diaz Serrano said that the production ceiling of 2.5 million barrels a day, with 1.1 million being exported, remains in force and that the program "cannot change." Mexico plans to stabilize its production at 2.25 million barrels a day between 1980 and 1982, when the present government term expires.

PEMEX TO SUPPLY CANADA WITH OIL IN 1980

PA122020 Paris AFP in Spanish 0436 GMT 11 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Toronto, Canada, 10 Dec (AFP)--Mexico will supply oil to Canada even though it is not a regular customer, Mexican Ambassador Agustin Barrios Gomez said here today. The ambassador added that after supplying its regular clients, Mexican Petroleum will make priority sales to Canada because Mexico regards Canada as one of its (?best future) friends. A bilateral agreement is about to be closed for the immediate delivery of small amounts of crude that will total 50,000 barrels a day in 1980, the diplomat said. That amount will be doubled as soon as possible, Barrios Gomez said. Noting that Canada has decided to increase its gas exports and Mexico its oil exports to the United States, the diplomat hoped that Washington will be generous with its neighbors in other trade items. Barrios Gomez reaffirmed that Mexico will never join OPEC or make spot market sales, because this upsets the international economy.

FSLN DELEGATE ADDRESSES PUERTO RICO SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE

PA121441 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 6 Dec 79 p 5 PA

[Speech by guerrilla commander Mauricio Valenzuela, chief of the FSLN delegation to the second international conference of solidarity with Puerto Rico held in Mexico from 30 November to 2 December 1979]

[Excerpt] Companeros of the presidium of this second international conference of solidarity with the independence of Puerto Rico, companero delegates and special guests:

It is our honorable task to present to you the revolutionary greeting of the people of Sandino and their vanguard, the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], whose National Directorate has chosen us to be here in solidarity with the indomitable people of Puerto Rico, a people who, in 500 years of colonial submission, have struggled without respite to win their independence and recover their right to sovereignty and self-determination.

We Sandinists have come to do our duty...because...as Sandinists we are internationalists. We have come to reaffirm our right as Latin Americans to participate in the Latin American peoples' struggles to win their legitimate independence. We come here with humility and pride as the children of Augusto Cesar Sandino to share the desires and hopes of the children of Pedro Albizu Campos. It is not the first time that we Sandinists tread on Mexican soil. The Mexican people's hospitality toward the brothers of Carlos Fonseca and the exploited peoples of the world is not recent, nor is it a secret. Nor is the Bolivarian spirit of these people new. It dates from the beginnings of the century. They are reaffirming it now, despite the pressure of imperialism, by welcoming to their bosom the revolutionary and progressive men of the world who converge today to begin in unity a new stage of militant internationalism, expressed in unconditional solidarity with the Puerto Rico of Lolita Lebron, the Puerto Rico of Oscar Collazo, the Puerto Rico of Rafael Cancel, the Latin American Puerto Rico.

PARAGUAY

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES REPORTS OF NEGOTIATIONS TO RECEIVE SHAH

PY122307 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 12 Dec 79 p 8 PY

[Excerpt] Reliable Foreign Ministry sources reported this morning that there are no negotiations--either diplomatic, official or unofficial--aimed at allowing the former shah of Iran to come to our country. The report dispelled speculation in this regard disseminated in recent days by the foreign press and some local news media.